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In another use of the apparatus, the membrane **20** may be a surface that takes an imprint through contact therewith, such as carbon paper or the like. In this manner, the Braille characters may be imprinted onto the membrane by simple contact so as to be visually readable instead of through tactile contact.

While the invention has been described with reference to at least one preferred embodiment, it is to be clearly understood by those skilled in the art that the invention is not limited thereto. Rather, the scope of the invention is to be interpreted only in conjunction with the appended claims and it is made clear, here, that the inventor(s) believe that the claimed subject matter is the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A Braille reading apparatus comprising: a base unit presenting a planar upfacing surface and a traveling Braille character carriage; and a cover unit engaged with the base unit, the cover unit providing a flexible membrane extensive over the upfacing surface and positioned in parallel therewith; the character carriage engaged with a means for scanning of the character carriage across the base unit, the character carriage providing plural character read units in linear sequence between opposing ends of the Braille character carriage; each of the read units providing means for character presentation in contact with an underside of the membrane; whereby, a page of Braille is readable through tactile contact moving between the opposing ends of the character carriage over an outside surface of the membrane, as the character carriage moves over the base unit between ends thereof.

2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein each of the read units comprises six Braille bead assemblies.

3. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein each of the Braille bead assemblies provides a support block and extending from the support block a dome, the support block mounted on an axle and rotationally positionable thereon and adapted

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for moving between an up-dome position and a down-dome position, wherein the up-dome position places the dome into abutting contact with the membrane, and the down-dome position places a flat surface of the support block in adjacent juxtaposition to the membrane.

4. The apparatus of claim 3 further comprising a revolving belt positioned below the bead assemblies and adapted for moving the support block between the up-dome position and the down-dome position in accordance with an electromagnetically operated release assembly.

5. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein each of the bead assemblies further comprises a permanent magnet attached thereto, an electromagnet positioned under each of the bead assemblies and enabled for repelling and attracting the permanent magnet thereby rotating the bead assembly between the up-dome position and the down-dome position.

6. A display apparatus comprising: a base unit presenting a planar upfacing surface and a traveling character carriage; the character carriage engaged with a means for scanning of the character carriage across the base unit, the character carriage providing plural character read units in linear sequence between opposing ends of the character carriage; each of the read units providing means for character presentation; whereby, characters are visible on the character carriage; the characters being formed by rotational bead assemblies through one of a rotating belt and electromagnets.

7. The apparatus of claim 6 wherein each of the bead assemblies provides a support block and extending from the support block a dome, the support block mounted on an axle and rotationally positionable thereon and adapted for moving between an up-dome position and a down-dome position, wherein the up-dome position places the dome into a visible location.

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